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Message Text

SECRET

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64
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DPW-01 DRC-01 /127 W
---------- 061541
R 080106 NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8802
/CINCPAC HONOLULY HI

S E C R E T SAIGON 19148

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS
SUBJ: G-2 BRIEFING, MONTHLY MR-1 COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO BIEN HOA CAN THO NHA TRANG
USDAO SAIGON FROM DANANG NOV 6,1973 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE:
DANANG 1199

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS
SUBJECT: G-2 BRIEFING, MONTHLY MR-I COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE

REF: SECRET DANANG 1194

THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF THE G-2 BRIEFING PRESENTED AT THE
MONTHLY MR-I COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 28 WAS PREPARED
BY THE REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICER:

1. BASED UPON A REVIEW OF RECENT NVA/VC ACTIVITIES AND
CAPABILITIES, THE G-2, COL. LE DAT CONG, CONCLUDED THAT THE
COMMUNISTS STILL PLAN TO CONDUCT A GENERAL OFFENSIVE SOMETIME
IN 1974. HE ALSO ESTIMATED THAT PRIOR TO THE GENERAL OFFEN-
SIVE THE COMMUNISTS WILL CONDUCT OPERATIONS AIMED AT LAND-
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GRABBING TO REESTABLISH ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS IN ORDER TO SOLVE SOME OF THEIR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

2. CONG STATED THAT, WHILE THE SITUATION WAS QUIET IN QUANG TRI, THERE HAD BEEN SOME INCREASE OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THUA THIEN WESTERN AREA AS COMPARED WITH LAST MONTH. HE CITED IN PARTICULAR THE PROBING AND LAND-GRABBING ACTIVITIES AT CO-BI, MO-TAU AND BACH-MA. ADDITIONALLY, HE SAID, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN QUITE ACTIVE IN THESE THREE PROVINCES OF QUANG NAM, QUANG TIN, QUANG NGAI SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS. IN QUANG DA THE ENEMY LAUNCHED 18 GROUND ATTACKS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE ON ARVN AND TERRITORIAL FORCES, AND DAMAGED 2 IMPORTANT BRIDGES: CAU LAU AND GIAO THUY. THE ENEMY IS EXPECTED TO ATTEMPT TO EXPAND ITS AREA OF CONTROL IN THE QUE-SON VALLEY, AND TO RE-STABLISH ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS OBTAINED IN THE GVN ZONE. ELEMENTS OF 711TH DIVISION STARTED PHASE 1 OF THIS PLAN WITH GROUND ATTACKS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE.

3. IN QUANG TIN, THE ENEMY STEPPED-UP ITS ACTIVITIES WITH 10 GROUND ATTACKS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE ON FRIENDLY POSITIONS, AND THE DESTRUCTION OF BA-BAU BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 1. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT ON 4 OCTOBER, THE ENEMY FIRED 70 ROUNDS OF 81MM AND 61MM MORTAR, 21 ROUNDS 57MM RECOILESS RIFLE, AND ATTACKED 2 RF STRONG POINTS 14 KMS WEST OF TAM KY, INFLICTING A NUMBER OF CASUALTIES ON FRIENDLY FORCES. ON 4 AND 5 OCTOBER, THE ENEMY FIRED FIVE 122MM ROCKETS ON QUANG TIN PROVINCIAL CAPITAL WOUNDING 4 CIVILIANS. THIS WAS THE FIRST SHELLING ON TAM KY CITY SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE.

4. IN QUANG NGAI, THROUGHOUT OCTOBER, THE COMMUNISTS MAINTAINED ESSENTIALLY THE SAME LEVEL OF ACTIVITY DISPLAYED DURING THE LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER. ACTION WAS DIRECTED MAINLY AGAINST FRIENDLY FORCES IN THE VICINITY OF HOANG-OANH BASE, WITH 2 GROUND ATTACKS AND 17 ATTACKS BY FIRE WITHIN TEN DAYS, AND AT CONG-HOA VALLEY WHERE FIERCE FIGHTING TOOK PLACE TO GAIN CONTROL OVER HILL 252. THEN ON THE NIGHT OF 22 TO 23 OCTOBER, THE ENEMY STEPPED-UP ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE WITH MORE THAN 20 GROUND ATTACKS, ATTACKS BY FIRE, HARASSING AND TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. G-2 ESTIMATED THAT IN THE OTHER PROVINCES, AT LEAST WITHIN THE AREA OF 5TH MILITARY REGION, THE COMMUNISTS WILL LAUNCH SIMILAR

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HIGH POINTS IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

5. CONG THEN DESCRIBED COMMUNIST LOGISTIC ACTIVITIES, INFILTRATION, AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF BASE AREAS. ON THE INFILTRATION CORRIDORS, HE SAID, THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO MOVE A SIGNIFICANT QUANTITY OF WEAPONS, AMMUNITION, AND FOOD SUPPLIES INTO SOUTH VIETNAM, BUT THAT HEAVY RAINS AND

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FLOODS HAD CAUSED SOME DAMAGE TO THEIR LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS.

6. ON THE WATERWAY FROM CUA VIET TO CONG HA, THE G-2 REPORTS THAT IN OCTOBER, THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 22 BARGES, 6 BOATS (TYPE 46), 62 MOTOR-BOATS, AND 7 PGM BOATS. AT DONG HA A METAL BRIDGE IS BEING RECONSTRUCTED; THE LAST SPAN HAS BEEN COMPLETED. AERIAL PHOTOS ALSO REVEALED 2 NEW INSTALLATIONS, 1 OPEN STORAGE AREA, 1 UNDERGROUND POL DEPOT WITH 24 POL TANKS (19,500 LITERS EACH), AND 110 TRUCKS DURING THE MONTH. AERIAL PHOTOS ALSO REVEALED TWO 122MM ARTY PIECES BEING MOVED BY PRIMEMOVERS TO A CAMOUFLAGED AND STRONGLY-BUILT EMPLACEMENT 5 KM NNW OF TRIEU PHONG, AND ANOTHE POSITION WITH FOR 100MM ARTY PIECES NEARBY.

7. THE COMMUNISTS CONTINUE TO INFILTRATE PERSONNEL REPLACE-MENTS. THE G-2 REPORTED, THAT IN OCTOBER, EIGHT GROUPS TOTALLING FOUR THOUSAND MEN INFILTRATED INTO MR-I AND WERE ASSIGNED AS REPLACEMENTS TO VARIOUS COMMUNISTS UNITS.

8. IN SUMMATION, CONG ESTIMATED THAT ONE MUST EXPECT AN IN-CREASE OF COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITIES. HE CHARACTERIZED THE PRESENT PHASE AS A COMBINATION OF BOTH POLITICAL AND MILITARY STRUGGLE AND THAT IT WILL LAST AT LEAST UNTIL THE END OF 1973. HE SAID IF THERE IS A GENERAL OFFENSIVE (CALLED "STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE" BY THE COMMUNISTS), IT WILL PROBABLY OCCUR IN 1974.
POPPLE
UNQUOTE
MARTIN

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NNN

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